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Application No. 09/960,162
Amendment dated October 31, 2006
Reply to Office Action of July 31, 2006

Docket No.: 010684.0103PTUS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A system for transferring a digital image to a fulfillment center to generate a photographic product from said digital image comprising:

Instructions for directing a first processing unit to:

Maintain a list of a plurality of fulfillment centers available to generate a photograph from said digital image,

Receive a request from a photographer processing unit for a list of options to generate said photographic product from said digital image,

Transmit to said photographer processing unit said list of options for generating said photographic product and a photographer list of at least one fulfillment center that can fulfill said options,

Receive an order from said photographer processing unit, said order specifying at least one fulfillment center to fulfill the order,

Transmit routing information to said photographer processing unit wherein said routing information is for transmitting said digital image to a fulfillment center processing unit of one of said fulfillment centers to process said order, and

Transmit said order to said fulfillment center processing unit of said one of said fulfillment centers; and

A media readable by said first processing unit that stores said instructions.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Receive said digital image from said photographer processing unit.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 2 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Transmit said digital image to said fulfillment center processing unit.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions for directing further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

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Receive a confirmation from said photographer processing unit responsive to said digital image being transmitted to said fulfillment center processing unit.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions for directing said first processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Determine said one of said fulfillment centers to process said order from parameters received in said order responsive to receiving said order.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Receive a confirmation from said fulfillment center processing unit responsive to said order being processed.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Debit a photographer account responsive to receiving said order.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 7 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Receive a transfer of funds from said photographer processing unit, and

Credit said funds to said photographer account responsive receiving said funds are received.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein said instructions include instructions for transferring said funds electronically.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein said instructions for transmitting said order to said fulfillment center processing unit are executed responsive to receiving said funds.

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11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Credit said funds received from said photographer processing unit to an account of said one of said at least one fulfillment centers responsive to receiving said funds.

12. (Currently amended) The system of claim [1] 11 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Periodically debit a service charge to said account of said one of said at least one fulfillment centers.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12 wherein said instructions for directing said first processing unit further comprises:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Maintain a count of a number of orders that said one of said at least one fulfillment centers receives.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13 wherein said instructions further comprise:

Instructions for directing said first processing unit to:

Debit a transactional charge for said order responsive to said count being above a predetermined number.

15. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said instructions to maintain said list of said at least one fulfillment centers comprises:

Instructions for directing said processing unit to:

Maintain a web page listing said fulfillment centers with hyper-link text pointing to web pages listing said options for said fulfillment centers.

16. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Establish a connection with said first processing unit,

Receive said photographer list of fulfillment centers from said first processing unit,

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Display said photographer list of fulfillment centers,

Receive an input for said request for said list of options of said one of said fulfillment centers,

Transmit said request to said first processing unit,

Receive said list of options from said first processing unit, and

Display said list of options;

Receive an input specifying at least one fulfillment center to fulfill an order; and

A second media readable by said photographer processing unit that stores said instructions.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Receive an input of said order, and

Transmit said order to said first processing unit.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Receive said routing information from said first processing unit.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 18 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said processing unit to:

Transmit said digital image to said first processing unit responsive to receiving said routing information.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 18 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprises:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Transmit said digital image to said fulfillment center processing unit using said routing information responsive to receiving said routing information.

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21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Transmit a confirmation to said first processing unit responsive to transmitting said digital image.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17 wherein said instructions for directing said photographer processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said photographer processing unit to:

Transmit an account identification to said first processing unit responsive to transmitting said order.

23. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said order includes a graphic instruction set for said photograph.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said request includes parameters for selecting said one of said fulfillment centers to process said order.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein said parameters include a location of a fulfillment center.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein said parameters include sizes for said photographic product.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein said parameters include graphics available for said photographic product.

28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 24 wherein said parameters include a range of prices for said photographic product.

29. (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising:

Instructions for directing a fulfillment center processing unit to:

Receive said order from said first processing unit,

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Receive said digital image, and
Process said order to generate said photographic product; and
A media readable by said fulfillment center processing unit that stores said instructions.

30. (Currently amended) The system of claim 29 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:
Store said digital image to a memory.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 30 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:
Delete said digital image from memory responsive to processing said order.

32. (Original) The system of claim 30 wherein said instructions for directing said processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:
Delete said digital image from said memory responsive to a period of time being reached.

33. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:
Transmit a status of said order periodically to said first processing unit.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim 29 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for said fulfillment center processing unit to:
Transmit an availability of said one of said fulfillment centers to fulfill subsequent orders.

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35. (Original) The system of claim 29 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to process said order comprises:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:

Generate a proof from said digital image and a graphic instruction set.

36. (Original) The system of claim 35 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprises:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:

Read said graphic instruction set from said order.

37. (Original) The system of claim 35 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprises:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:

Receive said graphic instruction set from a photographer processing unit.

38. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment processing unit further comprising:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:

Receive said digital image from said first processing unit.

39. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35 wherein said instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit further comprise:

Instructions for directing said fulfillment center processing unit to:

Receive said digital image from a photographer processing unit.

40. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of options includes photographic product sizes.

41. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of options includes types of paper available for said photographic product.

42. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of options includes graphics available to add to said digital image to generate said photographic product.

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43. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein said list of options includes said fulfillment centers that provide particular options.

44. (Currently amended) A method for generating a photographic product from a digital image, said method comprising:

Maintaining a list of fulfillment centers available to generate said photographic product from said digital image by a first processing unit;

Receiving a request from a photographer processing unit for a list of options to generate said photographic product from said digital image in said first processing unit;

Transmitting said list of options for generating said photographic product and a list of at least one fulfillment center that can fulfill said options from said first processing unit to said photographer processing unit;

Receiving an order from said photographer processing unit said order specifying at least one fulfillment center to fulfill the order;

Transmitting routing information to said photographer processing unit wherein said routing information is for transmitting said digital image to a one of said fulfillment centers to process said order; and

Transmitting said order to a fulfillment center processing unit of said one of said fulfillment centers.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:

Receiving said digital image in said first processing unit from said photographer processing unit.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising:

Transmitting said digital image from said first processing unit to said fulfillment center processing unit of said one of said processing centers.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:

Receiving a confirmation from said photographer processing unit responsive to said digital image being transmitted to said fulfillment center processing unit.

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48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
Determining said one of said fulfillment centers to process said order from parameters received in said order responsive to receiving said order in said first processing unit.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
Receiving a confirmation in said first processing unit from said fulfillment center responsive to said order being processed.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprises:
Debiting a photographer account by said first processing unit responsive to receiving said order.

51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 further comprises:
Receiving a transfer of funds from said photographer, and
Crediting said funds to said photographer account by said first processing unit responsive receiving said funds are received.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein said funds are transferred electronically.

53. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein said first processing unit transmits said order to said fulfillment center processing unit responsive to receiving said funds.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 51 further comprising:
Crediting said funds received from said photographer to an account of said one of said at least one fulfillment centers responsive to receiving said funds.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
Periodically debiting a service charge to an account of said one of said fulfillment centers.

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56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 55 further comprising:
Maintaining a count of a number of orders that said one of said fulfillment centers receives by said first processing unit.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 56 further comprising:
Debiting a transactional charge for said order to said account of said one of said fulfillment centers responsive to said count being above a predetermined number.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said maintaining said list of said at least one fulfillment centers comprises:

Maintaining a web page listing said fulfillment centers with hyper-link text pointing to web pages listing said options for said fulfillment centers.

59. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
Establishing a connection between said photographer processing unit and said first processing unit;
Receiving said photographer list of said fulfillment centers from said first processing unit in said photographer processing unit;
Displaying said photographer list of said fulfillment centers by said photographer processing unit;
Transmitting said request from said photographer processing unit to said first processing unit;
Receiving said list of options from said first processing unit; [and]
Displaying said list of options by said photographer processing unit; and
Receive in said photographer processing unit an input specifying at least one fulfillment center to fulfill an order.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 59 further comprising:
Receiving an input of said order in said photographer processing unit; and
Transmitting said order from said photographer processing unit to said first processing unit.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60 further comprising:

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Receiving said routing information in said photographer processing unit from said first processing unit.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 further comprising:

Transmitting said digital image to said first processing unit responsive to receiving said routing information.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 61 further comprising:

Transmitting said digital image to said fulfillment center processing unit of said one of said fulfillment centers from said photographer processing unit using said routing information responsive to receiving said routing information.

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63 further comprising:

Transmitting a confirmation from said photographer processing unit to said first processing unit responsive to transmitting said digital image.

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 60 further comprising:

Transmitting an account identification from said photographer processing unit to said first processing unit responsive to transmitting said order.

66. (Original) The system of claim 60 wherein said order includes a graphic instruction set for said photograph.

67. (Original) The method of claim 60 wherein said request includes parameters for selecting said one of said at least one fulfillment centers to process said order.

68. (Original) The method of claim 67 wherein said parameters include location of a fulfillment center.

69. (Original) The method of claim 67 wherein said parameters include sizes for said photograph.

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70. (Original) The method of claim 67 wherein said parameters include graphics available for said photograph.

71. (Original) The system of claim 67 wherein said parameters include a range of prices for said photograph.

72. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 further comprising:
Receiving said order in said fulfillment center processing unit from said first processing unit;
Receiving said digital image by said fulfillment center processing unit; and
Processing said order by said fulfillment center processing unit to generate said photograph.

73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 further comprising:
Storing said digital image to a memory by said fulfillment center processing unit.

74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further comprising:
Deleting said digital image from said memory in said fulfillment center responsive to processing said order.

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 73 further comprising:
Deleting said digital image from said memory responsive to a period of time being reached.

76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 further comprising:
Transmitting a status of said order periodically from said fulfillment center processing unit to said first processing unit.

77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 further comprising:
Transmitting an availability of said one of said fulfillment centers to fulfill subsequent orders from said fulfillment processing unit to said first processing unit.

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78. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 wherein said processing said order by said fulfillment center processing unit comprises:

Generating a proof of said photograph from said digital image and a graphic instruction set.

79. (Previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein said generating said proof further comprises:

Reading said graphic instruction set from said order.

80. (Previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising:

Receiving said graphic instruction set from a photographer processing unit.

81. (Previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising:

Receiving said digital image by said fulfillment center processing unit from said first processing unit.

82. (Previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising:

Receiving said digital image from a photographer processing unit by said fulfillment center processing unit.

83. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein said list of options includes photographic product sizes.

84. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein said list of options includes types of said photographic product.

85. (Original) The method of claim 44 wherein said list of options includes graphics available to add to said digital image to generate said photographic product.

86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 wherein said list of options includes said fulfillment centers that provide particular options.